

# Author Guidelines

## Information for Authors

The peer reviewed *Canadian Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing* (CJCN) provides a forum for disseminating timely, original research and other topics related to cardiovascular health and illness, with a focus on cardiovascular nursing. As a bilingual journal, the CJCN welcomes submissions in English or French.

\*The Journal welcomes submissions of:

- Original research papers
- Short reports
- Review papers
- Commentaries and responses to commentaries
- Discourse relevant to cardiovascular nursing
- Case reports
- Arts-informed scholarship

\*Letters to the Editor in response to our articles or columns are also welcome.

## Manuscript Submission

Manuscripts should be sent by email to: Canadian Council of Cardiovascular Nurses  
Email: [david@cccn.ca](mailto:david@cccn.ca)

All manuscripts submitted to CJCN must include/address the following:

- A covering letter, stating the work has not been published and is not being considered for publication elsewhere.
- Permission from the copyright holder for any previously published material (e.g., excerpts, tables and illustrations) that appears in the manuscript.
- If the study that is being submitted is similar in any way to another study previously submitted/published or is part of multiple studies on the same topic, include a brief explanation of how the manuscript differs and verify that there is no identical material.
- To ensure a blind review process, identifying details of the authors or and their affiliated institutions should be included in a separate title page file. The title page within the manuscript file should include only the title.
- An Author Declaration Form must be completed by all authors and submitted with the initial manuscript submission

## General Guidelines for Manuscript Preparation

### Format

Prepare your manuscript in accordance with the style outlined in the American Psychological Association's (APA) Publication Manual (7th ed.).

Manuscripts should be typed, double-spaced in Times New Roman 12-point font. All margins should measure 2.5 cm. **The manuscript length includes tables, figures, illustrations and references.** (Compute the graphics as equivalent to one half or one full size page depending on anticipated size when published). To facilitate the review process, the CJCJN encourages authors to include line numbering in the body of their manuscript.

For reporting the various research designs, we suggest that authors consider using the following guidelines:

- For observational cohort, case control and cross sectional studies: STROBE (<http://www.equator-network.org/reporting-guidelines/strobe/>).
- For quasi-experimental/non-randomized evaluations studies: TREND (<http://www.cdc.gov/trendstatement/>).
- *For randomized/quasi-randomized controlled trials*: CONSORT (<http://www.equator-network.org/reporting-guidelines/consort/>).
- *For systematic Review and Meta-Analyses*: PRISMA (<http://www.equator-network.org/reporting-guidelines/prisma/>).
- *For systematic Review of Observational Studies*: MOOSE (<http://www.equator-network.org/reporting-guidelines/meta-analysis-of-observational-studies-in-epidemiology-a-proposal-for-reporting-meta-analysis-of-observational-studies-in-epidemiology-moose-group/>).

### Text Style

Follow the APA guidelines for the title page, levels of headings, grammar, punctuation, gender-neutral language, references, citations, tables, and figures. Exceptions to APA include the abstract length and that spelling should be current Canadian use where applicable.

**\*Title Page:** An identifying title page file should include a running head, concise manuscript title ( $\leq 12$  words), names, credentials, position/title, and affiliation of all authors. The corresponding author should indicate a telephone number, email, and mailing address.

\*NOTE: The full title is also included at the beginning of the manuscript pages.

**Abstract:** Abstracts should be  $\leq 150$  words, formatted as a single paragraph. Research abstracts should be organized under the following headings: Background, Purpose,

Methods, Results, Conclusions, and Implications for Practice, and adapted as appropriate for other types of manuscripts.

**Key words:** Four to five keywords from the CINAHL Subject Heading list should appear on the abstract page.

**Headings:** The text should be arranged as follows for research papers, and adapted as appropriate for other types of manuscripts:

- i. Title Page
- ii. Abstract
- iii. Keywords
- iv. Background or Introduction
- v. Aim and Methods
- vi. Results
- vii. Discussion
- viii. Implications for Practice/Research
- ix. Key Highlights – 3 or 4 important points
- x. References
- xi. Figures and Tables

**Key Highlights:** Include 3-4 bulleted points that highlight the key messages of the manuscript. The key highlights are to be presented on a separate page, following the main text, and just before the references.

**Acknowledgements:** Any acknowledgments may be included on the same page as key highlights. Acknowledgements should be brief and limited to all sources of funding, and key contributors of the manuscript, other than the authors.

**\*References:** Prepare in accordance with the APA style. The CJCN uses a reference list (not a bibliography).

\*NOTE: GOOGLE offers many sources for APA referencing guidance (e.g., <https://www.scribbr.com/apa-style/apa-seventh-edition-changes/>)

\*For a PowerPoint presentation on APA Guidelines, please visit our website or [click here](#).

**Tables & Figures:** Prepare in accordance with the APA style. Each table, figure, graph or illustration should be submitted on a separate sheet and numbered as it appears in the manuscript (e.g., Figure 1). Illustrations should be computer-generated or professionally drawn. Images should be in electronic form, high resolution (300 DPI).

## **Manuscript Types and Formatting**

### **1) Research Papers and Research-Based Short Reports\***

\*The maximum length for research papers is 25 double-spaced pages and 13 pages for

research-based short reports\*\*, including abstract, text, key highlights, acknowledgements, references, tables, and figures (Note: excluding title page).

\*Reports of studies involving human subjects must indicate procedures for the protection of their rights and informed consent, as well as Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval.

\*\*examples of research-based short reports: preliminary study findings, methods papers, or pilot study reports

## **2) Non- Research Short Reports, QI/QA Projects\*, and Clinical Practice Papers**

Short reports or clinical practice papers that describe current cardiovascular nursing practice problems with depth and specificity for the practicing nurse are welcome. For example:

- Describe the implementation of new nursing technique or clinical equipment.
- Provide current evidence-based research/standards/guidelines on cardiovascular disease management, specific diagnosis, and related care and treatment.
- Provide insight into the behaviour of the cardiovascular patient, family, or nurse.
- Offer new solutions to old problems (i.e., helpful hints).
- Describe creative programs and evaluations related to all aspects of care of the cardiovascular patient, student experience, and resources that address cardiovascular practice.

Note: Non-research reports should not exceed 15 double-spaced pages, including abstract, text, key highlights, acknowledgements, references, tables, and figures (Note: excluding title page).

\* For QA/QI projects involving human subjects, REB approval or documentation of waiving of this requirement from your unit REB and/or the appropriate university-wide REB is required with your manuscript submission and should also be documented in the manuscript.

## **3) Knowledge Synthesis/Reviews\***

Quantitative, qualitative, or mixed methods knowledge synthesis/literature reviews on any area of research relevant to cardiovascular nursing are welcomed.

\*Review submissions should not exceed 25 double-spaced pages, including abstract, text, key highlights, acknowledgements, references, tables, and figures (Note: excluding title page). Authors are advised to explain their methodology clearly (e.g., overall approach, literature search strategies, data analysis). The PRISMA flow diagram should be considered to guide manuscript development and be submitted. Systematic review methods are evolving and authors are urged to cite supporting references.

## **4) Commentaries and Responses to Commentaries**

These submissions should not exceed 1000 words in length and should offer a critical but constructive perspective on the published paper.

## **5) Discourses Relevant to Cardiovascular Nursing\***

Discourses relevant to cardiovascular nursing, including position papers and critical reviews of particular bodies of work, that do not contain empirical data or use systematic review methods are also welcome.

\*Discourse submissions should not exceed 20 double-spaced pages, including abstract, text, key highlights, acknowledgements, references, tables, and figures (Note: excluding title page).

## **6) Case Reports**

Case study manuscripts should not exceed 13 double-spaced pages, including abstract, text, key highlights, acknowledgements, references, tables, and figures (Note: excluding title page).

## **7) Arts-Informed Scholarship**

Narrative reflections that draw upon arts-based mediums, which may include poetry, paintings, and/or photography and focus on the cardiovascular encounter are welcome. These manuscripts should not exceed 20 pages, including abstract, text, key highlights, acknowledgements, references, tables, and figures (Note: excluding title page).

## **Review/Publishing Procedures**

Manuscripts of original articles are peer-reviewed. If the peer reviewers recommend publishing with content revisions, the manuscript will be sent to the corresponding author with recommendations. If a manuscript is rejected, the decision is final.

Expected timeline from submission to response is twelve weeks.

### **Author Declaration**

All authors of submitted manuscripts must complete the [Author Declaration Form](#)

### **Copy Editing**

Accepted articles are subject to copy editing.

### **Copyright**

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Canadian Council of Cardiovascular Nurses 202-300 March Road, Ottawa, ON K2K 2E2 Tel: 613-599-9210 Fax: 613-595-1155 [info@cccn.ca](mailto:info@cccn.ca) [www.cccn.ca](http://www.cccn.ca)